Innovation of Multimedia

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Innovation

Multimedia is a huge part of the technology that we use in our classrooms and the world in general. There are many types available to the average consumer. Of the many types, not all are suitable for education. I previously chose three different options of innovations for diffusion into the classroom and they included YouTube for educators, Discovery Education, and digital storytelling. After researching these topics, I decided to focus on digital storytelling.

The study I located discussed teaching Egyptian educators how to implement digital storytelling into the technology in their classrooms. Technology there was stated to be not as far along as in other parts of the world. The hopes were to assist these educators in using more technology to positively impact their students. The author also stated this issue is worldwide. Teachers are not comfortable with a lot of the technology so they tend to not use it. According to Sadik (2008),”The findings from classroom observations and interviews revealed that despite problems observed and reported by teachers, they believed that the digital storytelling projects could increase students’ understanding of curricular content and they were willing to transform their pedagogy and curriculum to include digital storytelling”(p. 488).

“Storytelling is the original form of teaching”(Sadik, 2008, p. 489). This is the main reason I chose digital storytelling as my topic of innovation. I think children learn best through storytelling. If they can learn how to write their own stories and teachers can learn how to turn more lessons into stories, I think students would be even more successful in the classroom.

I chose digital storytelling over YouTube because there are other resources of this type available to educators and students already being utilized, such as TeacherTube. I think Discovery Education is a great resource as well, but it is instructor driven and there is not a great deal of student interaction. Students just watch and gather information from the video and use it to learn. In digital storytelling, they can learn from teacher made stories or develop their own storied to learn from and share with others. The school where I work is a technology based charter school and many of the elementary and middle school teachers utilize digital storytelling. I am new there but I am excited to possibly teach my kindergarteners to work with some digital storytelling.

References

Sadik, A. (2008). Digital Storytelling: A Meaningful Technology-Integrated Approach for

Engaged Student Learning. *Educational Technology Research And Development*, *56*(4),

487-506.